

succeeding. Just this past year, the graduates of the district's high schools received over \$2 million in academic scholarships—not including the HOPE Scholarship. They are all to be congratulated for a job well done.

Finally, Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the over 2,000 faculty and staff working tirelessly throughout the school district. Their hard work and devotion to the students of Clarke County are succeeding. I also acknowledge the commitment of Superintendent James Simms and School Board Members Charles Worthy, Chester Sosebee, Denise Mewborn, Vernon Payne, David Nunnally, Sr., Allison Wright, John Knight, Sidney Anne Waters, and Ovita Thornton.

All of these great individuals, most especially Ms. Halley Page, deserve our highest praise and the commendation of the House of Representatives.

HONORING DON LOPEZ'S SERVICE
TO THE SMITHSONIAN AND HIS
COUNTRY

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Donald S. Lopez.

Don, described as a "walking encyclopedia" by his friends and colleagues, was hired by the Smithsonian as assistant director for aeronautics in 1972. He was part of the team, which included Apollo astronaut and then director Michael Collins, that planned the National Air and Space Museum, which opened in 1976 and would become the most visited museum in the world.

Don's love of and knowledge of flight began as a boy—seeing Charles Lindbergh parade through the streets of Brooklyn, New York; reading World War I aviation publications; and hitching rides on barnstormers. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1942. A year later, Don received his wings. During his 2 years in China, he flew 101 missions and scored five victories to become a World War II ace fighter pilot. He received the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross with One Oak Leaf Clusters, Soldier's Air Medal with Two Oak Leaf Clusters, Soldier's Medal, and Chinese Breast Order of Yun Hui.

After World War II, he became a test pilot and finished his education, earning a master's degree in aeronautics from the California Institute of Technology. Apollo 8 astronaut Frank Borman was one of his classmates. In the early 1960s, Don helped establish the aeronautics program at the new U.S. Air Force Academy. He retired from the Air Force in 1964 and worked as a systems engineer on the Apollo-Saturn Launch Vehicle and Skylab Orbital Workshop.

Lopez became deputy director of the National Air and Space Museum in 1983 and held various advisory positions through the late 1990s. He was most proud of the Pioneers of Flight gallery, which he filled with "such great airplanes." In his lifetime, he flew more than 32 different types of aircraft.

I am especially grateful to Don for choosing my constituents at Corporate Flight Management and Tangent Industries to rebuild and modify a Cessna 150 for an interactive display in the museum's How Things Fly gallery.

Don Lopez will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery on April 22, 2008. A memorial fund at the National Air and Space Museum has been named in his honor.

Donald S. Lopez—a war hero, test pilot, educator, and preserver, of our Nation's aeronautic achievements—was truly a renaissance man.

RECOGNIZING CORONA DEL SOL
HIGH SCHOOL'S STAND CLUB

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the STAND Club from Corona del Sol High School in my hometown, Tempe, Arizona, for its dedication to addressing the genocide in Darfur. The school club has worked tirelessly to raise over \$7,000 for the Backpack Project and the Solar Cooker Project, which provide direct aid to the people in Darfur.

STAND, a group of about 30 high school students that was started just a year and a half ago, has spent countless hours doing fundraisers and projects to support and raise awareness of the Darfur cause. Specifically, the students have organized Thankful Thoughts at Thanksgiving and a Guitar Hero competition at Corona's Bonfire, as well as numerous candy, cookie, and candle sales. I would like to congratulate the students on their efforts to raise an additional \$3,000 through its silent auction fundraiser, One Night STAND. Including guest speakers from the Lost Boys of Sudan, the upcoming event seeks to both raise money to directly assist those affected by the genocide as well as raise awareness about the ongoing tragedy.

The students should be proud of their accomplishments. I congratulate them on a job well done and ask them to keep up the good work.

HONORING MR. GEORGE NTIM, RECIPIENT OF J. WILLARD MARRIOTT AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. George Ntim, in recognition of receiving the J. Willard Marriott Award of Excellence. As director of guest relations and community services at the New York Marriott Marquis, Mr. Ntim is receiving this prestigious award for his dedication to excellence in service and hospitality. This is quite an honor as this award will be given to only nine individuals in the entire global operations this year.

Madam Speaker, the dedication that Mr. George Ntim shows to his profession is truly praiseworthy, and I thank him for his service to his numerous clients. I have personally had the good fortune to know Mr. Ntim, as he has assisted me various times during my stays at the Marriott. His affable personality and enthusiasm certainly does not go unnoticed, and contributes to his professional success. The hard work Mr. Ntim exhibits on a daily basis exemplifies that he is truly deserving of this honor.

IN HONOR OF MARY QUARRIER
GOURLEY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Quarrier Gourley, who passed away on Friday, March 14, 2008.

Mary, who was known to most people as Molly, was born in 1932 and grew up in Modesto, California. She attended Modesto Junior College and later Zweegman's School for Medical Assistants in San Francisco. In 1957, she married William H. "Bill" Gourley, who was a 1st Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. While Bill traveled the world for the United States Army, Molly was at his side. Over a 35-year span they covered every corner of the United States and Europe. Even after Bill retired, they continued to hit the road often. Among Molly's favorite places to visit were Washington DC., Germany and Turkey.

Molly loved to spend her time researching her genealogy, gardening, traveling, and entertaining her friends and family. Through genealogy, she discovered her families' extraordinary history. She had family members who took part in the American Revolution and joined the Daughters of the American Revolution. Molly had a great amount of pride in her family origins. It was that pride in her family history that she imbued in her own family and what built strong bonds among them, bonds that keep them close despite being settled in disparate places.

I always knew Molly as a vivacious, bubbly person—always full of life and laughter. But that bubbly spirit was not to be confused with frivolousness. Absolutely not. Molly was a person of depth and substance, a woman of strength. Hers was a presence always felt and will be sorely missed.

Molly is survived by her husband, William Gourley, who attained the rank of Major General in the U.S. Army and is now retired; her son Michael; and daughter Cecily, Carolyn, Mary Jane; and her nine grandchildren. She will be laid to rest at Arlington Cemetery later this month.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mary Quarrier Gourley, who was a thoughtful and loving wife, mother, and grandmother.